during this period. Of these, works for length of 5,528 km of National Highways have been completed till 31.01.2005.

(c) and (d) the project specific time frame for completion of a project is decided at the time of approval based on the nature and scope of work. Generally, the works are implemented according to the schedule.

(e) and (f) 250 works amounting to Rs.394.68 crore were sanctioned during last five years for the National Highways in Karnataka. Out of this, 249 works costing Rs.385.35 crore have been completed and the remaining one work costing to Rs.9.33 crore is targeted for completion by February 2006. In addition to this, a lenght of 752 km of National Highways under NHDP in the State of Karnataka has been approved and targeted for completion by December,2007.

Development of cruise shipping

417. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to go in for cruise shipping to develop and tap its immense economic potential;

(b) if so, the details of the project;

(c) whether a High Powered Committee has gone into this issue; and

(d) if so, its salient recommendations thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to formulate a cruise shipping policy with the objective to make India a major cruise tourism destination for attracting the right segment of foreign cruise tourists and for popularizing cruise shipping with Indian tourists.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The recommendations of this Committee are awaited.